

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that the claim of foreign priority has not been acknowledged in the Office action. A formal acknowledgement of Applicants' foreign priority in the next communication would be appreciated.

Claim 1 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. In addition, the claims have been editorially revised for clarity.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 4 and 10. Claims 4 and 10 have been maintained in dependent form pending further disposition of the application in view of this Amendment.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ho et al. in view of Wang et al. Claims 3, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ho et al. in view of Nafie et al. However, since these claims are dependent from Claims 1, 5, and 7, Applicants presume that the Examiner additionally intended to rely on Wang et al.

Without acceding to the rejections, Applicants submit herewith a translation of priority Japanese Patent

Application No. JP2003-094842, filed on March 31, 2003 and a Translator's Statement of Accuracy. Applicants' foreign priority is effective to disqualify Wang et al. as prior art with respect to this application.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that this application be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10055) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Mitchell W. Shapiro/  
Mitchell W. Shapiro  
Reg. No. 31,568

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.  
1751 Pinnacle Drive  
Suite 500  
McLean, Virginia 22102  
(703) 903-9000

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